CLAIMS

WE CLAIM:

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- 1. A polymer-platelet particle composite comprising at least one polyamide, at least one oxygen scavenging system, and platelet particles derived from at least one layered silicate material.
- 2. The composition of claim 1 wherein said polyamide resin is selected from the group consisting of partially aromatic polyamides.

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- 3. The composition of claim 1 wherein said polyamide resin is selected from the group consisting of poly(m-xylylene adipamide), poly(hexamethylene isophthalamide-co-terephthalamide), poly(m-xylylene adipamide-co-isophthalamide), and mixtures thereof.
- 4. The composition of claim 1 wherein said polyamide resin comprises poly(m-xylylene adipamide).

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- 5. The composition of claim 1 wherein said platelet particles are present in an amount up to about 30 weight percent.
- 6. The composition of claim 1 wherein said platelet particles are present in an amount up to about 20 weight percent.

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- 7. The composition of claim 1 wherein said platelet particles are present in an amount between about 0.01 weight percent and about 20 weight percent.
- 8. The composition of claim 1 wherein said platelet particles are present in an amount between about 0.5 weight percent and about 20 weight percent.

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- 9. The composition of claim 1 wherein said layered silicate material comprises sodium bentonite, sodium montmorillonite or mixtures thereof.
- 10. The composition of claim 1 wherein said oxygen scavenging system comprises an oxygen scavenging catalyst which comprises at least one transition metal compound.
- 11. The composition of claim 10 wherein said oxygen scavenging catalyst is selected from the group consisting of the first, second, and third transition series.

- 12. The composition of claim 10 wherein said oxygen scavenging catalyst which comprises at least one cobalt compound.
- 13. The composition of claim 11 wherein said cobalt compound is selected from the group consisting of organic acids, acetates, halides, and mixtures thereof.
- 14. The composition of claim 1 wherein said oxygen scavenging system is selected from the group consisting of ethylenically unsaturated hydrocarbons and a transition metal catalyst; ascorbate; isoascorbate; sulfite; ascorbate with an oxygen scavenging catalyst; transition metal complex or chelate of a polycarboxylic acid; transition metal complex or chelate of polyamine; transition metal complex or chelate of salicylic acid; a reduced form of a photoreducible dye compound; carbonyl compound with an absorbance in the ultraviolet spectrum; tannin; polyethers with a transition metal catalyst; polyamides with a transition metal catalyst; organic compounds having a tertiary hydrogen, benzylic hydrogen or allylic hydrogen in combination with a transition metal catalyst; an oxidizable metal in combination with a salt; or a metal in a low oxidation state that can be oxidized further to higher oxidation state, usually in combination with a salt.
- 15. The composition of claim 14 wherein said photoreducible dye is selected from the group consisting of quinones and anthraquinones
- 16. The composition of claim 1 wherein said layered silicate material is a Wyoming-type sodium montmorillonite or Wyoming-type sodium bentonite which has been treated with one or more alkoxylated ammonium cations.
 - 17. The composition of claim 1 further comprising at least one antioxidant.
- 18. The composition of claim 1 further comprising at least one photoinitiator.
- 19. An article comprising at least a first and a second layer, said first layer comprising a polyamide having dispersed therein at least one layered silicate material and wherein said second layer comprises a polymer and an oxygen scavenging system.
- 20. The article of claim 19 wherein said layered silicate material comprises a Wyoming-type sodium montmorillonite or Wyoming-type sodium bentonite

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which has been treated with one or more alkoxylated ammonium cations; wherein said polymer comprises a polyester and said oxygen scavenging system comprises at least one polyether compound and at least one oxygen scavenging catalyst.

- 21. The article of claim 19 wherein said polymer comprises polyethylene methyl acrylate and said oxygen scavenging system comprises a transition metal catalyst and a cyclohexene moiety copolymerized onto said polymer.
- 22. The article of claim 19 wherein said article is a container or a preform comprising at least three layers in at least a portion of said article.

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- 23. The article of claim 19 wherein said oxygen scavenging composition is blended with recycled polyester.
- 24. A multilayer article wherein at least one layer comprises the composition of claim 1.
- 25. The article of claim 24 wherein said at least one layer is disposed between a first and third layer each of which comprises at least one polyester.
 - 26. The article of claim 24 wherein said article is selected from the group consisting of film, sheet, tubing, profiles, pipes, fiber, containers, preforms, thermoformed articles and flexible bags.
 - 27. The article of claim 24 wherein said article is a container or a preform comprising at least three layers in at least a portion of said article.
 - 28. The article of claim 24 wherein said article is a container or a preform comprising at least four layers in at least a portion of said article.
- 29. The article of claim 24 wherein said polymer-platelet particle composite is
 disposed in an intermediate layer between a first and fourth layer each of which comprises at least one polyester.